

From: Jeanne Roy, 13505 SE River Rd, Portland, OR 97222
To: Joint Committee on Transportation
Date: April 15, 2025
Subject: HB 2945, Zero Emission School Bus Act

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Members of the Committee:
I urge you to support HB 2945 and the -1 Amendment, which will accelerate Oregon's transition to zero-emission school buses.

As a volunteer for a nonprofit that promotes sustainability in elementary schools, I am aware of the air pollution from cars and buses that children are exposed to before and after school. Diesel exhaust from buses is especially harmful to children's health and learning potential.

Oregon has already made major strides, replacing diesel buses with zero-emission models that eliminate tailpipe pollution and protect kids from harmful diesel exhaust. To date we have secured ~\$20M-\$30M federally, which combined with other funds has resulted in close to 200 electric school buses on our roads or soon to be. To scale this up, the Electric School Bus Fund should be funded at \$20 million annually, with dedicated resources for technical assistance to school districts.

Importantly, the bill requires a transition only when the total cost — including grants and rebates — is at parity with traditional diesel models.

This shift to electric buses will save school districts money. Over a bus's lifetime, electric buses cost significantly less to fuel and maintain than diesel buses, yielding taxpayer savings while improving air quality for students.